OLR Bill Analysis HB 6292

AN ACT CONCERNING TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

SUMMARY:

This bill adds a training area that teacher preparation program candidates must successfully complete before earning professional certification. Under current law, the State Board of Education has established four professional teaching standards competency areas (see BACKGROUND). The bill requires candidates to also complete training in how children learn and develop socially and emotionally. Such training must provide instruction on (1) how to provide a comprehensive, coordinated social and emotional assessment of children who appear to have social or emotional problems; (2) how to intervene early; and (3) the availability of, and a child's eligibility for, treatment.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

BACKGROUND

Professional Teaching Standards Competency Areas

In order to earn professional certification, candidates must successfully complete training in areas including (1) development and characteristics of learners, (2) evidence- and standards-based instruction, (3) evidence-based classroom and behavior management, and (4) assessment and professional behaviors and responsibilities (CGS 10-145a(i)).

Professional Educator Certificate

A professional educator certificate is a license to teach, issued to a person who has completed at least three years of teaching in a public or state-approved private school. During these three years, the person must have (1) held either a provisional educator or provisional

teaching certificate and (2) completed at least 30 graduate-level credit hours. For teachers employed in public schools, this certificate is reissued every five years only after the completion of at least 90 continuing education units or a national board certification assessment in the appropriate endorsement area (CGS § 10-144o(7)).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable Yea 20 Nay 0 (03/26/2013)